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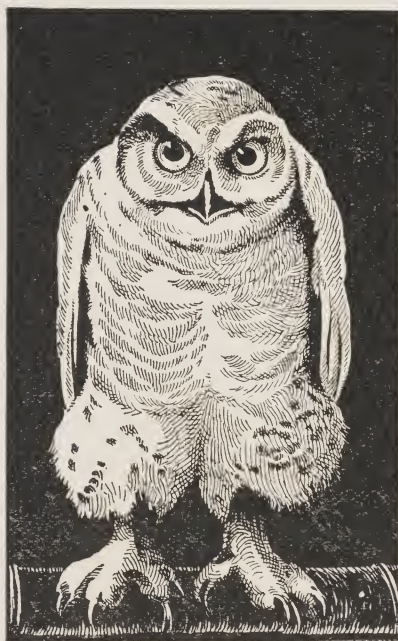
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Wisdom, Kindness and Appreciation.

.....

THE most precious attribute in man is wisdom or common sense. Brilliance pales before it. In every walk of life there is brought home to us every day the value of wisdom. There are people in the world who outstrip their neighbors and competitors in every rivalry. They look at things with keener appreciation; they know things better and

as it were by instinct. These people are generally credited with wisdom. They usually have knowledge. If an invention of striking value comes out they secure it. If a book of surpassing merit is issued they buy it, and the sum of it all is, these people get ahead and the others don't know why. The way the knowing ones are buying the portfolios of "WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA" is the latest instance, striking and convincing. These people know just as well as if they saw the tangible evidence that they will never have an opportunity to get these portfolios at the nominal figure for which they are now securing them, and the consequence is the wise of both sexes and all ages who know about them are buying them. That's Wisdom.

KINDNESS.

Next to Wisdom and a beautiful companion for it—is Kindness. There are tens of thousands who have not had the opportunity of seeing the announcements of the Wild Flower portfolios, and would have missed them

entirely had it not been for the KINDNESS of others telling and writing to friends, informing them how and where they can get them. Thousands of these are cutting out coupons and sending them to friends. Isn't this KINDNESS? It is kindness that will be appreciated more and more as the years roll by, when many a man and woman will be heard to say, "I would not have had the 'Wild Flowers of America' if it had not been for my good friend ——." Kindness endureth. Perhaps some others will let their friends know that for a short, short time back numbers of "Wild Flower" portfolios may be procured through the same medium.

APPRECIATION.

Here follow a few extracts from letters received giving evidence of appreciation. And so this great work is passing on, and millions will lament the lost opportunity when it is too late.

"Wild Flowers of America" fill a long-felt want.

Amos J. Cummings,

U. S. Congressman.

"Wild Flowers of America" carried out with the enthusiasm of a botanist and the skill of an artist.

Professor W. Wilson,

Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means.

Nothing that has come under my notice is to be compared with the "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co.

W. T. Harris,

Chairman U. S. Bureau Education, Washington.

"Wild Flowers of America" for the first time places the native flowers of the United States within the reach of every man, woman and child of our land.

Amos J. Cummings.

Regarding "Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., while there are a number of works in which a few of our more conspicuous plants are figured, there is none so far as I know that is so exhaustive as this.

Professor F. H. Knowlton,

Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

"Wild Flowers of America," by G. H. Buek & Co., is a happy idea.

Professor W. Wilson,

Chairman U. S. Committee Ways and Means, Washington.



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 WRIGHT'S CROWNBEARD.
VERBESINA WRIGHTII.
 JULY.



— 210 —
 RETICULATES CLEMATIS.
CLEMATIS RETICULATA.
 JULY.

PLATE 209.

WRIGHT'S CROWNBEARD. VERBESINA WRIGHTII. (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

Stem erect, leafy, not winged, sparingly branched, rough, hairy; leaves opposite, sessile, ovate or oblong, rather sharply serrate, thick, prominently veined, scabrous; heads terminating long almost naked peduncles; involucre much imbricated; bracts oblong; rays numerous, oblong-ovate, much exceeding the disk.



ONE of the earliest of the many collectors who have labored to bring to knowledge the rich flora of the Southwest, was Charles Wright. In 1849 he accompanied an expedition of United States troops sent out from San Antonio, Texas, to El Paso, New Mexico. In this interesting region, then little known and only recently annexed to the United States, Mr. Wright made large collections of botanical specimens, which were named by Dr. Gray and published under the title of "Plantæ Wrightianæ." There were a great many species described for the first time, and some genera new to science. Wright afterwards made extensive and valuable collections in Cuba. A great deal of our knowledge of the flora of that island is due to him.

Wright also collected largely in Texas, bringing to light many interesting plants of that region. Among these was a Crownbeard, *Verbesina Wrightii*, one of the many plants which bear the name of that "Prince of collectors" as Gray calls him. It was discovered in the mountains near Austin, Texas, and was first described as an *Actinomeris*. It has strayed northward. It is a showy plant, the stems growing in clusters from a deep root. The leaves of the main stem are opposite, those of the branches alternate. The heads are large, with bright yellow rays a full inch in length.

PLATE 210.

RETICULATED CLEMATIS. CLEMATIS RETICULATA. (CROWFOOT FAMILY.)

Stem herbaceous or slightly woody, much branched, climbing, smooth; leaves opposite, pinnate; leaflets seven to nine, petioled, elliptical, oblong-ovate or ovate-lanceolate, acute, strongly reticulate-veined, smooth, thick; flowers on long axillary peduncles; petals none; sepals four, thickish; achenes with long plumose tails.



FEW groups of plants present more variety in leaf and blossom than is exhibited by the species of *Clematis*. The Virgin's Bower and the Leather Flower seem quite dissimilar, while the rare and beautiful *Clematis Verticillaris* is very different from either. Some are erect plants, others high-climbers. Some have white fragrant blossoms in clusters, others solitary long-stalked flowers, in form not unlike a pipe with its stem. Others have huge open flowers of a rich purple color.

Clematis Reticulata has flowers solitary on axillary stalks, much like those of the familiar Leather Flower, *Clematis Viorna*, which is sometimes known by the name of Dutchman's Pipe. That title belongs properly to *Aristolochia Siphon*. The color of the blossoms of *Clematis Reticulata* is a dull greenish purple. The chief particular in which this species differs from *Clematis Viorna* is in the veins of the leaf, which are very prominent and form a net-work, hence the specific name.

The Reticulated Clematis inhabits the Southern States, growing from South Carolina to Florida and westward, straying north. It prefers dry open ground in the pine-barrens. The period of flowering begins in May and lasts until July.

The name *Clematis* was given by the classic herbalist, Dioscorides, to some unknown climbing plant, and was appropriated by Linnæus to the present genus.



— 211 —
 GREAT LAUREL.
 RHODODENDRON MAXIMUM.
 JULY.



— 212 —
 WAX WORK, CLIMBING BITTERSWEET.
 CELASTRUS SCANDENS
 JUNE.

PLATE 211.

GREAT LAUREL. RHODODENDRON MAXIMUM. (HEATH FAMILY.)

Shrub or small tree, often thirty feet high, much branched; leaves alternate on rather stout petioles, obovate, oblong, pointed, thick, evergreen; flowers in dense umbellate clusters from large, scaly terminal buds; corolla large, between bell-shaped and rotate, irregular, five-lobed; stamens ten, on the corolla; capsule woody, five-celled.



ONE of the most gloriously beautiful of American shrubs is the Great Laurel, *Rhododendron Maximum*—a full cousin to the rain-bowed Azaleas. Handsome as is the American Laurel, it cannot compare with the Great Laurel in size or in magnificence of flowers. *Rhododendron Maximum* often becomes a tree, sometimes reaching the height of thirty-five feet. The trunk, usually twisted and straggling, is yet often stout and straight. The leaves are larger and of a less glossy green than those of the *Kalmia Latifolia*. The flowers are individually larger, and occur in clusters of much greater size. A more superb object than a well-grown *Rhododendron Maximum* in full blossom, is not to be met with in our forests. The color of the flowers is pale pink to almost pure white, with spots of yellowish-green on the corolla. Royally beautiful are the great masses of these blossoms, with a good background in the sombre green of the foliage.

The Great Laurel occurs frequently in Western New York and Ontario, and very sparingly in Southern New England. It is very common in the mountain region from Pennsylvania southward. It grows along all the water-courses, often forming almost impassable thickets. It is in its prime of flowering in June:

‘When brooks send up a cheerful tune,
And groves a joyous sound.’

PLATE 212.

WAX-WORK, CLIMBING BITTERSWEET. CELASTRUS SCANDENS. (STAFF-TREE FAMILY.)

Woody climber; stems slender, leafy, branched; leaves alternate on slender petioles, ovate, pointed at apex, acute at base, serrate; flowers in bracted compound racemes at the ends of the young branches; calyx bearing a concave disk, to which the petals and stamens are attached.

“In human works, though labor’d on with pain,
A thousand movements scarce one purpose gain;
In God’s, one single can its end produce;
Yet serves to second, too, some other use.”—POPE.



SOME plants, as Thoreau expresses it, flower in fruiting. They produce small blossoms, of no particular interest or charm, reserving their store of pigments for the adornment of their fruit in Autumn. They seem to find it less essential to have gayly-painted blossoms to attract insects, than to bear bright-hued fruit to catch the eyes of birds. Beauty ever masks duty in the pageantry of Nature, and the brilliant dyes of fruits are but so many invitations to the fowls of the air, thus unknowingly enlisted for the transport of seeds a hundred, mayhap a thousand miles from home.

No group of plants are better endowed in respect to fruit-color than the small Staff-tree Family. There is no more vivid array of hues in our Autumn woods than that donned by the species of *Euonymus* or Burning Bush. Not to mention the crimson-red of the leaves, what brighter tints are found in Nature than the red-purple of the pods, that bursting, disclose the seeds with their scarlet arils?

Scarcely less gay are the colors of the Wax-work. In the fall the climbing stems are loaded with orange-yellow pods, each containing from three to six scarlet seeds. *Celastrus Scandens* blossoms in May. The flowers are greenish in color, not showy, but disposed in graceful grape-like clusters. The Wax-work or Climbing Bittersweet is common in Eastern North America, usually growing in thickets along streams.



— 213 —
COMMON HEAL-ALL.
BRUNELLA VULGARIS.
JUNE—SEPT.



— 214 —
SNAKE-MOUTH POGONIA.
POGONIA OPHIOGLOSSOIDES.
MAY—JULY.

PLATE 213.

COMMON HEAL-ALL. BRUNELLA VULGARIS. (MINT FAMILY.)

Stem smooth or pubescent, four-angled, erect or decumbent; leaves opposite, long-petioled, rhombic-ovate or oblong, obscurely serrate; flowers in dense cylindrical axillary or terminal spikes, each three subtended by a rounded membranaceous bract; calyx five-toothed, somewhat two-lipped; corolla nearly twice as long, curved, two-lipped.



It is often a difficult matter to determine whether a plant is truly indigenous to a country, or whether it has been introduced through the hand of man. In the case of North American plants that are also natives of Europe, the problem is sometimes exceedingly complicated, for the opportunities for the importation of European weeds into this country have been unusually good, and the spread of such weeds, when introduced, uncommonly rapid. As a general thing, if a European plant is found in Eastern North America, and not in the western part of the continent, nor in Asia, it may be doubted that it is native here. But if it ranges up into the northwest, and inhabits northern Asia, the chances are that it is truly indigenous. So it seems to be pretty certain that *Brunella Vulgaris* is native in North America. It is found in temperate regions almost everywhere.

In North America the *Brunella* is met with in meadows, open woods, and at roadsides, throughout the continent, north of Mexico. It begins to flower in June, and continues up to frost. It is not a showy plant, usually growing modestly close to the ground. The leaves, stem and bracts of the spike are often purplish. The flowers are blue or white, rarely pink.

PLATE 214.

SNAKE-MOUTH POGONIA. POGONIA OPHIOGLOSSOIDES. (ORCHIS FAMILY).

Whole plant quite smooth; roots fibrous, thickened, clustered; stem erect, simple, six to eighteen inches high; leaves two, clasping, one near the middle of the stem, ovate, the other near the summit, bractlike; flowers large, nodding; sepals and petals alike, lanceolate; lip bearded.



ONE of the handsomest of our many beautiful orchids is *Pogonia Ophioglossoides*. A plant of meadows and bogs, it is often found with its pretty relative, *Arethusa*, but flowers a week or two later. It has a wider range than has *Arethusa*, extending along the Atlantic Coast down as far as Florida, and reaching westward along the Great Lakes to Minnesota and Manitoba. The oddest thing about its geographical distribution is its occurrence in Japan.

Many genera that are represented in Eastern North America by a single species, have a sister representative in eastern Asia. But there are not many identical species found in these two localities and nowhere else. This similarity in the flora of these widely separated regions, is one of the most interesting and most discussed problems of geographical distribution.

Pogonia Ophioglossoides is a handsome plant, or rather a handsome flower. The leaves are not conspicuous. It is the blossom nodding at the summit of the stalk that attracts our attention. Usually the flower is solitary, but sometimes there are two or even three on a stem. The color is a pale pink. Albinos sometimes occur. The blossom has a peculiar fragrance, not agreeable to most people. Thoreau disliked the plant on account of its odor.



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SHOWY DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES.

DICENTRA EXIMIA.

MAY—AUGUST.



— 216 —

GROUND NUT.

APIOS (TUBEROSA.)

JULY.

PLATE 215.

SHOWY DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES. DICENTRA EXIMIA. (FUMITORY FAMILY.)

Scape and leaves from a scaly, short root-stock; leaves on long petioles, much dissected, ultimate segments linear, glaucous, especially beneath; flowers in a long peduncled compound raceme, irregular, rather large; petals four, the two outer with a very short blunt spur or sac at base.



SOME orders of plants there are that seem to have no members that are not beautiful. Others are entirely insignificant. The Saxifrage Family, for instance, is noted for the handsome plants that it includes. No plants that can justly be termed ugly belong to it. While, on the other hand, almost all the plants belonging to the Pig-weed and Goose-foot families are unbeautiful and weed-like. In the Fumitory Family, beauty is the rule. The common Fumitory itself, a native of the Old World but largely naturalized with us, is a handsome plant. The species of *Corydalis*, with their delicately dissected leaves and one-spurred yellow flowers, are very pretty. The dainty Alleghany Vine, *Adlumia*, of the Appalachian region, graceful in its leafage and with small, fragile-looking flowers, is among the fairest of our native plants. Then there are the Dutchman's Breeches and the Squirrel Corn among our early spring wild flowers.

Another species of *Dicentra* is the superb *Dicentra Eximia*, of the Appalachian region. This species occurs sparingly in New York and Ontario, but is common in the mountains of Virginia, the Carolinas and Tennessee, flowering from early in the spring until late in the summer. The foliage is coarser than that of our other species, but the rose-purple flowers in graceful drooping clusters, are very handsome.

PLATE 216.

GROUND-NUT. APIOS (TUBEROSA). (PEA FAMILY.)

Stem slender, much branched, climbing or reclining, underground branches bearing small round tubers; leaves alternate, petioled, pinnate, leaflets usually five or seven, ovate or ovate-lanceolate, acute at apex, rounded at base; flowers in close, rather short-peduncled, axillary racemes.

"Where the ground-nut trails its vine"



IS one of the valuable pieces of information possessed by Whittier's "Barefoot Boy." More learned than some of his fellows is he, for not every country lad knows where to seek the little round nut-like tubers that every urchin loves when found. Where shall we look for them?

Growing usually in low grounds along brooks, climbing over fences and bushes and weighting them down with tangled masses of leaves and flowers, we may usually encounter the *Apios*. It is wide-spread in Eastern North America, extending westward as far as Manitoba, Minnesota and Louisiana, and southward to Florida. The foliage is very handsome, a dark rich green in color, not unlike that of the *Wistaria*. The dense clusters of flowers appear in late summer. They are of a peculiar shade, intermediate between chocolate-brown and violet-purple. They have a faint, grateful perfume that has been likened to that of *Violets*, but the resemblance is not striking. The tubers are often pear-shaped, hence the name *Apios*, which is the Greek word for the pear.

According to Kalm, a Swedish botanist, who traveled in North America in the earlier part of the last century, and who sent many of our plants to Linnæus, the Indians knew the Ground-nut as "Hopniss."

PLATE 217.

POGONIA TRIANTHOPHORA (PENDULA). (ORCHIS FAMILY.)

Stem low, not exceeding eight or nine inches in height, smooth, rather succulent, leafy, rising from an oblong tuber; leaves alternate, broadly ovate, sessile and clasping, often purplish; flowers on short pedicels from the axils of the upper leaves; lip three-lobed, wavy.



AMONG the

"Flow'rets of the hills,"

we may number the fair little orchid, Pogonia Pendula, one of the shyest and most difficult to find, yet one of the most daintily graceful, of those almost always rare plants. A plant of upland woods, it may be met with during the latter part of summer, throughout Eastern North America. It grows in Eastern Canada and New England, and from there to Florida and Wisconsin. Rare almost everywhere, it is much more so east than west of the Alleghanies. The love of seclusion manifested by such plants as this may have been in the mind of Sidney Lanier, when he wrote:

"Beautiful glooms, soft dusks in the noon-day fire,
Wildwood privacies, closets of lone desire,
Chamber from chamber parted with wavering arras of leaves,

Cells of the passionate pleasure of prayer to the soul that grieves,
Pure with a sense of the passing of saints through the wood,
Cool for the dutiful weighing of ill with good."

While our other Pogonia have usually but a single large flower at the summit of the stem, the *pendula* generally has two, three or even four blossoms, nodding prettily on their short stalks. These are small, and are apt to escape notice, for the stems are short and usually nestle beneath the shade of other plants. But when we stoop to examine them, what a wealth of loveliness is revealed! The quaint pretty form of the blossom is not less attractive than the color, which is a delicate rose, or rather lavender. The hanging lip is daintily crisped, like some tiny seashell. The stem arises from a peculiar white tuber, like a little potato. The quaint fruit has earned it the fanciful name of "Three-Birds" in some localities.

PLATE 218.

BITTER-SWEET. SOLANUM DULCAMARA. (NIGHTSHADE FAMILY.)

Perennial; lower part of stem woody, upper part flexuose, climbing; leaves more or less pubescent, ovate in outline, obtuse or acutish at apex, cordate, hastate, or with two to four smaller leaflets at base, long petioled; flowers in open cymes; corolla rotate, five-lobed; fruit a two-celled red berry.



ONE of the many

"Petted flowers that the Old World gave the New,"

as Bryant puts it, is Solanum Dulcamara. At least, the Bitter-sweet if petted once, now no longer needs to be. Much cultivated in gardens many years ago, and even yet occasionally met with about country houses, it is well established as a weed of roadsides and waste ground. It is never a troublesome weed, and for its real beauty we should welcome it rather than regard it as an intruder. A somewhat woody climber, it prefers to mount low walls and undergrowth. The Bitter-sweet is unambitious and rarely ascends to any great height. The bright green foliage, the purple, yellow-stamened flowers in open clusters, and the scarlet berries form a brilliant array of color that comes and goes from early summer until frost. The fruit is popularly supposed to be poisonous. Very likely it is not entirely harmless—few of the Nightshade Family are—but it is surely not as dangerous as it is said to be.

Thoreau describes the berries: "The Solanum Dulcamara berries are another kind which grow in drooping clusters. I do not know any clusters more graceful and beautiful than these drooping cymes of scarlet or translucent, cherry-colored, elliptical berries with steel-blue or lead-colored purple pedicels."



— 217 —
 POGONIA TRIANTHOPHORA.
 (PENDULA)



— 218 —
 BITTER-SWEET.
 SOLANUM DULCAMARA.
 JUNE—SEPT

PLATE 219.

GALAX-LEAVED SHORTIA. SHORTIA GALACIFOLIA. (DIAPENSIA FAMILY.)

Suffrutescent, acaulescent; root-stock slender, creeping; leaves long-petioled, broadly ovate-oblong or almost orbicular, base rounded or heartshaped, apex truncate, coarsely dentate, thick, veiny; flowers on long peduncles, rather large; corolla white, five-cleft almost to the base, lobes dentate; style long, exserted.



URING the latter part of the eighteenth century, André Michaux, a French traveler and naturalist, was sent by the French government to America to collect shrubs and trees for botanical gardens in France. He remained in this country many years, making long collecting trips every year. He established several botanical gardens, one at Philadelphia, another near New York, a third at Charleston, South Carolina. Here he kept the plants collected on his journeys until he could send them to Europe. He made frequent excursions into the mountains of the Southern States. Many plants of that interesting region were first named and described by him. While collecting near the headwaters of the Savannah River, in northwestern South Carolina, he found a curious little shrubby plant which he believed to belong to the Heath Family. This he mentions in his journal.

When Gray visited Paris he had an opportunity to examine Michaux's herbarium. Here he found this odd plant, a fruiting specimen without name. He described it as a new genus, dedicating it to Dr. Short of Louisville. Afterwards another species was discovered in Japan. Then the original species was rediscovered in the mountains of North Carolina. Recently the district where Michaux probably first found the plant was explored, and great quantities of Shortia were found in the valley of the Whitewater, in Oconee County, South Carolina.

PLATE 220.

UMBELLED SPRING-BEAUTY. CLAYTONIA UMBELLATA. (PORTULACA FAMILY.)

Plant low, herbaceous; stems weak, rising from a round corm root; leaves on long weak petioles, cauline two, opposite, short-petioled, fleshy, obovate-spatulate or almost orbicular, obtuse at apex; flowers few in a sessile umbel between the two stem-leaves; sepals rounded; petals little longer, pale pink.

"What are these, you ask? these delicate things
With petals as airy as fancy's wings,
And daintily pink as a maiden's cheek
When she thinks of the love she cannot speak.
Why, these—I'll whisper a secret to you.

Nature is dreaming of flowers. It's true.
These are her dreams, when she wakens and shows
Her marvelous lily, her perfect rose,
Do you think such thrills to our hearts they'll bring
As these little dream-flowers found in Spring?"



UR two pretty little Claytonias of Eastern North America, the narrow-leaved Virginica and the broader-leaved Caroliniana, are among the best-known and most beloved of our wild-flowers. Everyone is familiar with them, and loves to meet them in the spring woods. In the West, especially along the Pacific Coast, there are quite a number of species of this genus, American with the exception of a few species in Northwestern Asia and possibly one in Australia.

Claytonia Umbellata is a native of the Sierras of western Nevada. It is a low plant, delicate and tender. The weak stems bear a single pair of leaves, from between which the stalks that bear the pale pink blossoms arise. It is otherwise not unlike the Claytonia Caroliniana. Strays of these beauties will be found in unexpected places.



— 219 —
 GALAX-LEAVED SHORTIA.
 SHORTIA GALACIFOLIA.
 JUNE.



— 220 —
 UMBELLED SPRING BEAUTY.
 CLAYTONIA UMBELLATA.
 MAY

PLATE 221.

BONESET, AGUE-WEED. EUPATORIUM PERFOLIATUM. (SUNFLOWER FAMILY.)

Stem stout, erect, downy-pubescent; rather tall; leaves opposite with connate bases, ovate-lanceolate, serrate, green above, whitish and downy on the under surface; heads numerous in terminal, compound corymbs; involucre of few, linear bracts; flowers all tubular, white; pappus of white bristles.



Of all the flowers that deck the meadows when the year is just entering "the sere and yellow leaf," none are better known to country people than the Boneset. It is a conspicuous plant, coarse and rank in its growth. The tall, stout stem, well provided with leaves, bearing aloft the great cluster of white-flowered heads, form a whole that is sure to attract attention. The leaves are opposite on the stem, and their bases have united so that the stalk seems to pass through a single leaf. On this account our plant is sometimes called "Thoroughwort." The flowers are great favorites with insects in the bright, late summer days, when sweeter Honey-cups are faded.

The leaves are sprinkled with tiny glands containing an acrid resin. When held to the light, these glands appear as minute points of light, thickly scattered over the surface. It is in this oil or resin that the supposed medicinal virtues of the plant are contained. The Boneset, as its name betokens, was once a much esteemed member of the rural pharmacopœia. With the Boneset but flowering a few days later as a rule, its haughtier cousin, Eupatorium Purpureum, flaunts its huge pink clusters. It is a plant worthy of a more aristocratic name than that it bears—"Joe-Pye Weed."

PLATE 222.

YELLOW VIOLET. VIOLA PUBESCENS. (VIOLET FAMILY.)

Stem erect, simple, sometimes a foot or more high, pubescent; leaves round-ovate, deeply heart-shaped, obtuse or pointed at apex, dentate, soft-pubescent, the lower on long petioles, the uppermost almost sessile; stipules rather large; flowers few on slender axillary pedicels; bright yellow.

"When beechen buds begin to swell,
And woods the blue-bird's warble know,
The yellow violet's modest bell
Peeps from the last year's leaves below.

Ere russet fields their green resume,
Sweet flower, I love, in forest bare,
To meet thee, when thy faint perfume
Alone is in the virgin air.

Of all her train, the hands of spring
First plant thee in the watery mould,
And I have seen thee blossoming
Beside the snow-bank's edges cold."—BRYANT.



MR. BURROUGHS criticises this poem because of the inaccuracy of some of its statements. The yellow violet has little if any perfume. It blossoms in April in the South, but further northward in May, long after the last "snow-bank" has disappeared.

"There is a great diversity in the
Tints that spot the violet's petal."

Every shade of blue, white, yellow, purple, and even rose is met with in the handsome flowers of this genus. Though not as common as the blue and the white, yellow violets are by no means rare. There are three or four varieties of them in Eastern North America, and several more in the West. Viola Pubescens is the best known of these. It is a common plant in Eastern North America, readily distinguished from the related Viola Scabriuscula by its being more hairy and of not so bright a green.



— 221 —
 BONESET, AGUE-WEED.
EUPATORIUM PERFOLIATUM.
 JULY—AUGUST.



— 222 —
 YELLOW VIOLET.
VIOLA PUBESCENS.
 MAY

PLATE 223.

GOLDEN HYPERICUM. *HYPERICUM AUREUM*. (ST. JOHN'S WORT FAMILY.)

Shrub one or two feet high, stems widely branched, leafy, bark grayish, shreddy; leaves opposite, short-petioled, oblong or oblong-ovate, mucronate, smooth, glaucous beneath, punctate; flowers large, solitary or in cymes; petals broadly obovate; stamens numerous; capsule ovate, partly three-celled, tipped with the persistent styles.



HE common *Hypericum Perforatum* of Europe, thoroughly naturalized in Eastern North America, has been known in England from time immemorial as St. John's Wort, and is regarded as of supernatural potency. A time-honored legend, once universal, still obtains in some of the rural districts of Great Britain in regard to the eve of St. John. The notion is that if one watch by the door of the parish church at midnight of that vigil, the ghosts of those in the parish who are to die during the following year will be seen to enter the church, each bearing his coffin. The harmless and commonplace-looking weed of the fields known as St. John's Wort, was once believed to aid this gruesome power of vision.

We have many species of *Hypericum* in this country, many more than are natives of the Old World. All are tidy plants, some are strikingly handsome. Perhaps the most beautiful of the genus is *Hypericum Aureum*, a native of glades and river-banks in the Southern States, from Tennessee to Georgia and Alabama, and ranging northward. It is a straggling shrub, with leaves of a fine green and large golden-yellow flowers. The numerous stamens give a dainty look to these blossoms.

PLATE 224.

BUTTERFLY-PEA. *CLITORIA MARIANA*. (PEA FAMILY.)

Stems slender, smooth, decumbent, ascending, erect or twining; leaves alternate, long-petioled, pinnately trifoliate, with small lanceolate, stipules; leaflets oblong or ovate-lanceolate, mucronate, veiny, pale beneath; flowers large, on axillary peduncles; calyx tubular-campanulate, five-toothed; standard large, erect.



REQUENTLY it has been noted that in the New World the vegetation of the tropics extends much further northward than in the Old. This has been demonstrated in regard to the grasses, and is equally true of other plants. The cause, doubtless is that summer in this country has heats unknown in parallel belts of Europe.

The Butterfly Pea belongs to a group of plants of the Pea Family that are nearly all confined to tropical or subtropical regions. Yet it is found in America as far to the North as southwestern New York, and straying further North, returns thence to Florida and Texas.

It is a beautiful plant, as exquisitely graceful as it is showy. In very poor soil it sometimes grows upright, but usually trails along the ground or reclines on low undergrowth. The foliage is of a bright refreshing green, a singularly happy shade for setting off the blossoms to the greatest advantage. These are very large, of a rich lilac tint, relieved by touches of deeper purple. As they stand erect on their stalks, they suggest vividly some large tropical butterfly with folded wings, resting for a moment ere it begins again its busy quest for nectar. The large standard is a good imitation of the folded wings, while the keel answers well to the body.

The flowers open in June, when Trumpet-vine and Wild-rose and Elder make of each homely field and fence-row, a paradise of beauty.



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